



# Stormwater Protection

By: Matthew Lake, M.S. CMS4S - Executive Director



Oil and water don't mix, and automotive fluids are a major concern that contribute to stormwater pollution. The amount of used oil from a single oil change can contaminate a million gallons of fresh water, which is an entire year's water supply for 50 people. These pollutants often get into the ground and surface water supplies. The key to prevention is proper material storage, cleanup and handling of automotive fluids.

## ***Here are a few things you can do to protect the environment:***

- Do not pour liquid waste down floor drains, sinks or outdoor storm drain inlets.
- Conduct maintenance work such as fluid changes indoors.
- Routinely check under vehicles for leaks or drips and address immediately.
- Clean up spills immediately, whenever possible without using water.
- Store all unused fluids in original containers.
- Use non-hazardous cleaners when possible.
- Promptly transfer used fluids to appropriate containers.
- Take used motor oil to a service station or other location that recycles used motor oil.

Here are some Merrillville businesses that accept used motor oil:

- **Auto Zone** -6155 Broadway
- **Duke of Oil** – 2080 West 81<sup>st</sup> Avenue
- **Duke of Oil** – 7930 Whitcomb Street
- **Jiffy Lube** – 5920 Broadway
- **Jiffy Lube** - 9301 Broadway
- **NTB - National Tire and Battery** – 8303 Broadway
- **O'Reilly Auto Parts** – 6060 Broadway

***Visit us at our webpage at:*** [http://merrillville.in.gov/departments/stormwater\\_management/](http://merrillville.in.gov/departments/stormwater_management/)

